

The Weekly Register.

POINT PLEASANT, VA.

THURSDAY: 1 MARCH 6, 1862.

SALUTATORY.

To-day, we doff our despoiled 'beaver' and make our best bow to a generous and appreciative public, as we present to the world the first number of 'The Weekly Register.' Being impressed no less with the fact that the wants of the people of this immediate section demand a medium through which matters of a general and public nature may be discussed, than with a desire of securing for ourselves a permanent, and we trust, remunerative employment, we have engaged in this enterprise. It is sufficient for us to say here, that we are aware of the obstacles we have to overcome in establishing a paper, with but a limited amount of means, and that we know something of the labor and responsibility that we assume in undertaking its management, as we have served a life-time apprenticeship at the business, and therefore ought to know something of its duties, if we know anything. With this assurance on our part we would prefer to be judged by our performances, rather than our promises, which, though they may be made in good faith may not be fulfilled strictly, and to the letter.

We therefore, only propose at this time to indicate briefly our position in regard to the great and momentous questions of the day.

In the first place we wish it, once for all, to be distinctly understood, that we are emphatically and unconditionally in favor of the Union, as formed by our fathers, and that under no possible or conceivable circumstances will we consent to its dismemberment.

The causes which have led to the deplorable and bloody civil war now desolating our fair land, have been recently, so fully discussed by the press, and from the rostrum, that they must be patent to everyone, and therefore, any disquisition from us on that subject would be unprofitable. It is enough for us to say, that the time for argument is now passed, and as the bad, ambitious and unprincipled men who are now seeking to overthrow the Government, were the first to appeal to arms, we are decidedly in favor of convincing them, by that kind of arbitration, that we have a government powerful enough to punish treason at home, and demand respect from abroad, not only in the present struggle for national existence, but for all time to come. To this end, we feel it our duty, and the duty of every patriotic and loyal citizen to give a cordial, hearty and unwavering support to the present Administration in the efforts it is making to crush out the present infamous rebellion. Although we happened to have our birth South of Mason and Dixon's line, we are not one of those who can be frightened from the plain path of duty by the cry of Abolitionism, and shall, therefore, stand by President Lincoln so long as he stands by the Constitution, as he has done heretofore.

As a law-loving, and law-abiding citizen, we feel bound to give our earnest and zealous support to the reorganized government of the State, as established by the Convention which assembled at Wheeling on the 11th day of last June, and shall advocate the proposition to divide the State, with all the energy and power that there is in us.

For this we might offer sufficient argument to satisfy any sane and reasonable man, but space will not permit at this time. It is sufficient to say here now, that we have no interest in common with the people of the Eastern portion of the State, that we can never hereafter have for them any of that fraternal feeling, which should exist between people of the same State, and without referring to the repeated and multiplied wrongs they have done us, we must say that in our opinion the sooner we are separated from the East the better it will be for both parties.

We intend, as far as may be consistent with our feelings of self respect, to treat all with whom we may have to deal editorially, with becoming courtesy, but shall discharge our duty as a public journalist, as far as we have the ability, "without fear favor or affection."

In conclusion we have to say to the loyal people of Mason and surrounding counties, (and we address none other than the loyal people—as our platform will not suit the other class) that we have engaged in this enterprise with the firm and fixed determination of putting it success-

fully "through" if such a thing is possible. With the people of West Virginia our lot has been cast, and her generous and magnanimous people to whom we look for support, will, we feel assured, sustain us in our undertaking, if our humble efforts should entitle us to receive it.

The Constitution of West Virginia. At some considerable expense, we furnish each of our subscribers this week with an extra, containing the Constitution of the proposed new State of West Virginia. We have been able, as yet, to give that document but a cursory examination; and, therefore, are not prepared to express any decided opinion as to its merits, further than to say that we consider it a vast improvement upon that instrument which was given to the people of Virginia as their organic law, after an eight months' incubation, by that one ideal, old fogy body, known as the reform Convention which assembled in Richmond, some ten or a dozen years ago.

As we understand, provision has been made for having the Constitution extensively circulated throughout the several counties of West Virginia; every voter can have an opportunity of informing himself of its merits, and be prepared to vote understandingly at the election for its ratification or rejection, which takes place on the first Thursday in April, next. That it will be ratified by an overwhelming majority, we do not entertain a doubt.

DEATH OF GEN. LANDER.—The public will be pained to hear of the death of the noble and intrepid, Gen. Fred. W. Lander, which occurred on the 2nd inst., at his headquarters on the Upper Potomac, of wounds received at Leesburgh, the day after the disaster at Ball's Bluff. Gen. Lander was the "bravest of the brave,"—as perfect a specimen of lofty chivalry as ever lived.

FOREIGN NEWS.—We have not space to print the details of news reaching us from Europe. It is sufficient to say that it is extremely favorable. The story that the French Emperor proposed to recognize the Southern Confederacy and break our blockade, turns out to have been manufactured by the sensation British Press. The dispatches of Lord Lyons to his Government just published, show that he has a very wholesome contempt for the arrogant and ignorant vulgarities who assume to be the Southern aristocracy and master of the world. The debates in the British Parliament show that there is but a small faction in favor of interjection in our affairs.

The Richmond Examiner says the confederate reverses at Roanoke and on the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers were "mere scratches on the skin of the country." As the country was penetrated to Florence, Ala., the epidemic must be thicker than most people imagined though from the general insensibility to honor and loyalty in that quarter, it was generally conceded to be thicker than that of a hippopotamus.

Ex-Governor Joseph A. Wright has been appointed, by Governor Morton, United States Senator from Indiana, in the place of Jessie D. Bright, expelled. Mr. Wright is a Democrat and a patriot and represented this country at the court of Berlin during the Buchanan Administration. The appointment is a fit tribute to his sterling worth, patriotism and integrity.

The evacuation of Columbus leaves Kentucky free of all armed rebels. Now let their be a through expurgation of the traitors who still infest her soil. Every man who does not give the Government his hearty allegiance, should be deprived of the benefits of its protection.

Secretary Stanton's order to the press makes clear one point which some of the enemies of General McClelland have endeavored to obscure. The General commanding is carefully distinguished from the "Generals commanding" the armies in the field in the several departments.—Inasmuch as the order is under the signature of the Secretary of war, it is therefore officially announced that General McClelland is still the "General commanding."—[N.Y. World.

Patterson's Creek Bridge, near Cumberland Md., was destroyed by fire Tuesday night, by a detachment of rebels. There was no guard at the bridge.

Under authority of the War Department special agents of the Adams Express Company are now actively engaged in arranging an extension of the lines of the company from Louisville and Cairo to Nashville, Clarksville, Forts Henry and Donelson, and other points in Tennessee.

There is certainly no parallel in the history of wars on this continent, if in any part of the world, to the series of victories that have perched upon the Stars and Stripes during the last month. In all quarters the rebel forces have been defeated, and overwhelmed.—Mumfry Marshall's army was routed and dispersed, Zollicoffer's large army put to flight and an immense amount of army stores, horses, wagons, arms and ammunition captured; the General himself killed. Fort Henry, a point of incalculable importance, fell into the possession of the Federal forces; General Tilghman and staff are prisoners. The text and last of the series in Kentucky was achieved at Fort Donelson, on the Cumberland river. This was a position of great strength naturally, and fortified with all the skill and science of the rebels possessed, and defended by a large force, numbering more than 28,000 or 30,000; yet after a brave and unflinching defense of three days, was unconditionally surrendered to the invincible prowess, the gallant enthusiasm and storming of the Federal forces, not superior to the entrenched rebels, in point of numbers. This victory will form a bright page in the history of this war. But this does not complete the series of the western victories; the Stars and stripes wave over Clarksville, Tenn., surrendered to Federal arms without a fight. Now this all yet Price and his army have been driven, with great loss from Missouri, into Arkansas and then defeated after he had formed a junction with McCullough's forces.

As brilliant as these victories, in the West are, they are equalled in every respect by the victory of Roanoke, on the coast of N. Carolina, under Gen. Burnside and Gen. Goldsborough. Official accounts state the results of the victory at Roanoke Island and the control of all the inland waters of North Carolina and of the Southern approach to Norfolk; the capture of six forts and batteries and the destruction of a seventh. The capture of 34 heavy cannon, 2,547 prisoners, 3,500 stand of arms, 75 tons of ammunition, superior winter quarters for over 5,000 men, and the entire destruction of the rebel fleet. This was done at the expense of 50 men killed and 222 wounded on our side.

Union Sentiment in Florida.

The Key West correspondent of the Boston Journal says: Parties who have escaped to the Federal vessels from Florida represent the condition of the people as deplorable. The exiles, and the Union sentiment, rapidly on the increase. The majority are heartily sick of the war, and would be glad to have peace upon any terms.—In the neighborhood of Tampa there are at least forty Union families, who only require the support of the Federal power to return to their allegiance. Similar reports reach me from other parts of Florida, and I do not hesitate to say that an army of 5,000 men could march through the entire State. It is proposed by Captain Eaton of the Ethan Allen, to take possession of a small island near Tampa Bay, on which there is a light-house and other buildings, and make it a temporary place of refuge for those who seek his protection.

The details of the news from England, brought by the mails of the Niagara, present one highly important feature not indicated by the telegraph from Halifax. Earl Derby, the leader of the opposition in the British Parliament, rose in his place in the House of Lords on the 7th inst., order to correct a misreport of his speech of the previous day, published in the London Times, and the fact of his deeming it necessary to take so much trouble may be regarded as a significant symptom of opinion. The report of his speech in the Times was: "I think the time is nearly come when the Government, may probably be called on to recognize the so far successful revolt of the seceded States."—What Earl Derby did say was very different. It was as follows: "The time has not come when it (the British Government) can properly be called on to recognize the Government representing the successful revolt of the Southern States. Though it is the prudence to recognize a de facto government that has succeeded in establishing itself, I do not think the resistance of the Southern States has been so successful as to justify us in recognizing them as a Power able to maintain its own independence.

The Lynchburg Virginian publishes the following: A private letter received from Centerville last night stated that our forces received orders to send their sick to the rear, and put themselves in marching order. By passengers who arrived on last night's train, the above report is confirmed, and they also state that the women and children were ordered to leave yesterday morning. We understand from the same source that the Yankees have succeeded in cutting another road through the woods to Fairfax.

The Louisville-Nashville-Bowling Green Courier, we learn, is now being published in Atlanta, Georgia.

FLOYD has a dislike to the shape of Minnie bullets, although he runs them.

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WHAT GEN. BUCKNER SAYS OF HIS DEFEAT AND OF FLOYD AND PILLOW.—General Buckner, while the host upon which he was conveyed a prisoner to Jeffersonville was lying at New Albany, was visited by a number of his old acquaintances. He met them cordially and conversed freely and unreservedly of his disaster at Fort Donelson. He stated that had it not been for Floyd and Pillow's cowardly desertion of him, he would have been able to cut his way through the Federal lines, and escaped with the greatest portion of his army. He freely denounced the cowardly conduct of the 'Great Thief' and the 'Ditch Digger,' as the cause of his present misfortunes. He even stated that these men had made a proposition that the officers should escape from the fort and leave the privates to their own fate—to be killed or taken prisoners, as the fortunes of the succeeding day might result. He spurned the base proposition, and determined to share the fate of his men.—He spoke in high terms of the valor of the Federal troops, and the soldierly qualities of their officers. He intimated that the rebellion had received a check from which it could never recover.

THE REBEL CONGRESS has little disposition to embrace the Border States in their deliberations. These unfortunate communities have been badly treated by the oligarchy. We read in the proceedings of the first day's session that, during the ballot for the Clerk of the House of Representatives, a pathetic appeal was made to the members in favor of the election of Mr. Johnson, a citizen of Missouri, says the report, "made an appropriate and touching allusion to the sacrifices made by her citizens and the sufferings she had endured to release herself from the oppressive thralldom of the Abolition Government." Furthermore, it was said that Johnson would accept the position as a high compliment. The Congress was inexorable.—It would neither sympathize with the sufferings of Missouri nor bestow a compliment upon the modest Mr. Emilius Dixon, of Georgia, a creature of Howell Cobb. In the organization of the new Government, not one of the down-trodden Border States is represented. The presiding officers of both branches of Congress are from Virginia, the Secretary of the Senate from North Carolina, the co-keeper of the House is from Alabama, the Clerk as we have said, from Georgia, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and Missouri, all of them represented on the floor, have no practical recognition in awarding the favors of Congress. They do not belong to the close cotton corporation, and with all their sacrifices, are regarded with suspicion and mistrust.—[Pitt. Times.

Southern News from Rebel Sources.

The Philadelphia Inquirer's Fort Monroe correspondent gives, on the authority of the Raleigh Register of the 26th, a rumor that General Huger was placed under arrest at Norfolk to be tried for negligence and incompetency. The Memphis Avalanche, of the 26th says General Beauregard is at Columbus but in anticipation of a Federal advance is about evacuating it.

AN APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE OF ARKANSAS.

Reliable information has just been received by me that the enemy, 16,000 strong, left Greenville, Mo., on Saturday last, for the purpose of attacking Pochontas. It now becomes the duty of every man to turn out promptly, shoulder his musket, and drive the vandals from the State.

This is probably the advance guard of a much larger force of the enemy.—Come without delay, singly or in squads, and rendezvous in Jacksonport. Bring as few horses as possible, as forage is scarce.

M. J. KEYWORTH, Com'g. Pochontas, Feb. 12, 1862.

The Norfolk Day Book of Friday furnishes the following intelligence:

The Richmond papers say that the following will in all probability, constitute the Cabinet of President Davis: J. P. Benjamin, of Louisiana, Secretary of State.

General Lee, Secretary of War. Brigadier Gen. George Randolph, of Virginia, Secretary of the Navy. C. G. Memminger, of South Carolina, Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Hester, M. C. from Kentucky, Postmaster General. Herschel V. Johnson, of Georgia, Attorney General.

The Appeal has a Richmond letter, dated Feb 19th. The letter writer says: The want of faith in the Government is more and more clearly manifested every day. The resolution of the Hon Mr. Foote, mentioned above, will probably bring and array as a party the opposition to the administration in the Lower House. President Davis has it in his power, by a thorough reorganization of his Cabinet, at the very opening of his regular Presidential term, to establish himself more firmly than ever in the public confidence.

In the Confederate Congress on the 27th, "resolution was unanimously passed to entertain no peace propositions excluding any portion of the soil of any of the Confederate States, and declaring that the war be continued until the enemy be expelled entirely from the Confederacy." This does not look much like making propositions for peace.—[Cin. Com.

Everybody to take the Oath. St. Louis, March 4.—Gen. Halleck, in a General Order, says, on the recommendation of the Governor and several Judges of the State, it is directed that licensed attorneys, counsels and proctors be required to take the oath of allegiance prescribed in the sixth section of the ordinance of the State Convention, passed October 18, 1861.

Judge of State Court will refuse to permit any one to practice in their Courts, who refuse or neglect to take such oath.

The Board of Assessment in the city of St. Louis, for the benefit of suffering families driven from Southwest Missouri, having completed its labors, and rendered its final report, is hereby dissolved.

The American Question in Parliament.—The following is a summary of the news taken out by the City of New York.

The Tuscarora left Gibraltar on the 13th inst., for the Spanish waters. She had been watching the Sumery which still remained at Gibraltar unable to procure coal.

In the House of Commons, on the 17th inst. the supplementary estimates for the naval and expedition on the Trent affair, amounting in all to 913,000, were moved and unanimously agreed to.

In the debate on the subject, Mr. Bright strongly denounced the policy of the Government thrown away. The threatening menaces were quite uncalculated for, and gave Earl Russell's first dispatch more the appearance of a declaration of war than a courteous demand for the just object which America could not fail to concede to.

He refused the idea that that American Government was influenced by a mob, and argued that the interests of England were bound up with America, that it was in every respect, invisible to inflict a sting that it might take centuries to remove.

Mr. Baxter endorsed the tone of the Government, but condemned the tone of the press.

Orders had been received at Sheerness to dismantle all gunboats prepared for commission under the American difficulty.

The Daily News and Star publishes the correspondence with Mr. Seward relative to the passage of British troops through the State of Maine. The latter journal accords much praise to Mr. Seward for his course in this respect.

The reading of the address to the Emperor of France has taken place in the Senate, and debate commenced upon the subject.

The address regrets the sufferings inflicted by the American civil war on the trade and manufactures, but agrees with the Emperor that the friendly relations of the two countries render neutrality incumbent, and believes the quarrel will be all the shorter if not complicated by foreign influence.

Prussia and Austria in Trouble.

Berlin, February 20.—The question between Prussia and Austria is continually widening. The language of the Prussian and Austrian papers is daily more hostile.

The agitation in Germany is increasing. Austria by her recent conduct, had lost much of her influence in Northern Germany.

The Paris Temps and Mexican Expedition.

Paris, Feb. 21.—The Temps and other French journals demonstrate that a monarchial restoration in North America will only benefit Spain, and the Spanish Monarchical interest alone existing there.

It is believed that the speech of Prince Napoleon on the address of the Senate, will express the real policy of the Emperor on the Italian question.

Military Governor of Tennessee.

Hon. Andrew Johnson has formally been appointed Military Governor of Tennessee, with all the powers, duties and functions pertaining to that office, during the pleasure of the President, or until the loyal inhabitants of the State shall organize a civil government in accordance with the Constitution of the United States.

In order to exercise those duties, it became necessary first to give a military position, and hence the President nominated him Brigadier General. This appointment the Senate to-day confirmed. The present Government of Tennessee, being a usurpation, every proper encouragement will be given to the military Government, be it to the loyal people to assume its control.

The designation of Andrew Johnson for the position is considered by everybody as eminently proper, both in view of his peculiar fitness for the office, and of his great popularity among all the loyal people, besides his devotion to his own State. The Governor, by the acceptance of the office, necessarily vacates his position as Senator. The term for which he was elected will not expire till March next.

Representatives Etheridge and Maynard, the former now clerk of the House, are making arrangements to go to Tennessee.

Robt. C. King, of Ohio, was to-day confirmed by the Senate as Minister to the Argentine Republic.

Colonel Corcoran's Troops on the Memphis Railroad.

Washington, March 1.—The last accounts from Colonel Corcoran say that he is on the way from Columbia, South Carolina, to Richmond.

It is said our forces are ten miles on the Memphis Railroad.

News from Nashville, dated yesterday says the rebels are retreating toward the Tennessee river.

It is stated that the rebels have evacuated Columbus, and are concentrating at Chattanooga.

Disloyalty On the Cumberland River—Columbus Evacuated and in Flamer.

Cairo, March 2.—A special to the Times from Cairo, the 1st, reports that the unanimous disloyalty of the citizens in and about Nashville is confirmed by every arrival from the Cumberland.—The difference in sentiment between the people of the Tennessee and Cumberland river is very marked. On the former are many Unionists; on the latter none have yet made their appearance.

Reports are current, and credited, that Columbus is evacuated and destroyed.—The town was in flames last night.—Great quiet is apparent, and inaction reigns in Cairo.

Cairo, March 3d, A gentleman, just arrived from Charleston, Mo., brings intelligence of the capture of forty of Jeff Thompson's band, and four, small one-pound guns, near Sykestown.

The gunboat Lexington had an engagement, a day or two since, with a rebel battery at Savannah, Tenn.

Counterfeits.

New York, March 1.—Counterfeit five dollar Treasury notes made their appearance in this city yesterday. They are excellent imitations of the genuine, but they can be detected. The letters "U. S.," one within the other, on the shield in the Goddess of Liberty, being left out.

Gen. Banks' Division.

CHARLESTOWN, VA., March 3.—Six hundred to one thousand barrels of flour belonging to the Confederates, have been seized and stored here. A Woolen Mill owned by a man named Davis, which had been manufacturing Confederate cloth, was also seized with considerable stock.

Richard Washington, brother of the late John A. Washington is now confined at Harper's Ferry.

A Rush to the Northern Gold Mines.

San Francisco, February 3.—The steamer Nevada, which sailed for the North was densely crowded with miners emigrating to the Oregon and British Columbia gold mines.

The Boston ship Polyanesia was burned at the wharf this morning, supposed to have been fired by the crew, part of whom were put on board by the police. The wreck will be sold to-morrow. She was about to sail for China in ballast.

Official Confirmation of the Evacuation of Columbus.

St. Louis, March 4.—Gen. Halleck has telegraphed the following to Major General McClelland:

Our cavalry, from Paducah, marched into Columbus yesterday at 6 P. M., driving before them the enemy's vanguard. The flag of the Union is now floating over the boasted Gibraltar of the West. Finding himself completely tumbled on both sides of the Mississippi, the enemy was obliged to evacuate or surrender. Large quantities of artillery and stores were captured.

[Signed.] H. W. HALLECK. Major-General.

Fort Monroe, March 3.—Nothing has yet been heard from the released Union prisoners. No flag of truce has passed between Fort Monroe and Craney Island.

Gen. Wool has refused to permit any more passengers to go South.

The Constitution, on her way up to Newport News, was fired on by the rebel boat, but not damaged.

Excitement in the South.

Louisville, Ky., March 4.—No passes will be hereafter required to any point in Kentucky.

Two bridges on the Nashville and Decatur Railroad, between New and Franklin, have been destroyed. It is also reported that a bridge near Columbia has been destroyed. Excitement prevails South of Nashville, and large numbers are fleeing further South.

The rivers are receding very slowly. Navigation for the largest class of boats will probably continue for some time.

EVACUATION OF COLUMBUS.—Cairo, March 4. I have just returned from Columbus, which was taken possession of by Commodore Foote and Gens. Colburn and Sherman.

Our flag waves in triumph over the rebel heights. It was planted on the late rebel batteries by Gen. Sherman and Lieut. Phelps, of the U. S. Navy. The enemy concluded their evacuating Monday night.

Columbus was first occupied by the Second Illinois cavalry, from Paducah without a conflict.

Columbus was really the Gibraltar of America.

All quiet on the Potomac.

Washington, March 4.—Everything in the vicinity of the army of the Potomac remains in a state of quietude.

Capture of a Rebel Captain.

Louisville, Mar. 1.—The Journal has advices that the rebel Captain John M. Pen, has been captured near Scottville.